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IN MEMORIAM.

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**Maj. Gen. Samuel Ryan Curtis.**

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**DIED, DECEMBER 26th, 1866.**





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KEOKUK, IOWA :  
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C. I.



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**MAJOR-GENERAL SAMUEL RYAN CURTIS.**

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Telegram.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Dec. 26, 1866.

Major General SAMUEL R. CURTIS died very suddenly at this city, this morning, of apoplexy.

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From the Omaha (Nebraska) Herald, Dec. 26, 1866.

With a deep feeling of personal sorrow, we have to announce the sudden death of Major General SAMUEL R. CURTIS. He departed this life at the house of Col. H. C. Nutt, in Council Bluffs, at the hour of 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock, having left Omaha about 9 o'clock this morning, apparently in the full vigor of health. He undoubtedly died of apoplexy, the fatal stroke of which came, perhaps not so much from any lesion in the blood vessels, as from some occult vital change in the nervous element, signs of disorder in which those familiar with the distinguished deceased may not have passed unnoticed.

The suddenness of Gen. CURTIS' death has produced a profound impression throughout our entire community, while a deep sense of loss to kindred, to friends, and to the public, is expressed

## Letter of General Simpson.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA, Dec. 26, 1866.

*Mrs. Gen. Sam'l R. Curtis, Keokuk, Iowa:*

MY DEAR MADAM: Col. Nutt has already apprized you of the sudden death of your devoted husband, and now the sad duty devolves on me to communicate the particulars.

When the Government Commissioners, Dr. White and myself, arrived at Omaha on the 21st inst., we found our colleague, the General, already on the ground. The next morning, 22d inst., we left Omaha, in the late President Lincoln's funeral car, for the North Platte station, for the purpose of examining the extreme section of thirty-five miles, terminating 305 miles west of Omaha. We were engaged examining this section till the succeeding Monday, when we returned to Omaha, reaching there the next morning, a little after midnight. We all took lodgings at the Herndon House, and the next day were engaged getting up our Report to the Secretary of the Interior, on the section we had examined.

Yesterday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, we all, by invitation, dined at Major Balcomb's, the editor of the *Omaha Republican*, and remained there till about 6 p. m., when the carriage took the General to his hotel, Dr. White and myself being left at a friend's, where we spent the evening. Between 9 and 10 the Doctor and myself returned to the Herndon House and spent about an hour with the General, in Major Bent's rooms, with whom the General was quartered. At about 11 we bade him and the Major good night, and all retired to our beds.

This morning we were all up before 7 o'clock, and the General, before breakfast, looked over, with the Doctor and myself, the Report to the Secretary. At half-past seven we all went to

breakfast, and immediately after walked over to the office of the Union Pacific Railroad, where we signed the Report.

At about 9 A. M. the General, the Doctor and myself left in a special carriage to go over the Missouri river to Council Bluffs, intending to proceed immediately thence to St. Johns, in Iowa, twenty-two miles distant; there at 3 P. M. to take the train, via the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, for Chicago, and thence to Leavenworth, the General and myself occupying the back seat and Dr. White the front. The Secretary of the Interior had ordered us to inspect a section of the Union Pacific Railway, Eastern Division, and we were on our way to obey his instructions. When we reached the Missouri river the General proposed, as the ice was somewhat doubtful, that we should get out of the carriage and walk across. We all did get out and walked across, the carriage following us. No difficulty occurred to us except some inconvenience from the cold, high wind and drifting sand; and, immediately after crossing, we took our old seats again in the carriage to continue on our way to St. Johns.

We had not proceeded probably more than half a mile when Dr. White, who sat on the front seat facing the General, exclaimed: "Stop, driver; I believe the General is fainting." I immediately cast my eyes upon him, and I noticed that he was quite pale—his eyes and a gurgling noise from his throat indicating he was in great distress. We immediately stopped the carriage, and laid him down as well as we could on a back seat, I taking a seat with the driver to give him all the room possible. This occurred about 9½ A. M., Dr. White expressing his opinion, from his not perceiving any pulse, and finding no action of the heart, that he was already dead. We then drove rapidly to the residence of Col. Nutt, a long and valued friend of the General,

who lived on the verge of Council Bluffs, nearer than any other citizen. Arriving there, Mrs. Nutt had a bed placed on her parlor floor, and Dr. White, Col. Nutt, myself and others called to our assistance, carried him from the carriage to the house, and laid him on the bed. Immediately Drs. Hown and Bundy were called in, and they and Dr. White, after an examination of his pulse and heart, pronounced him lifeless, and believed he died suddenly from congestion of the brain.

The General, during the trip, was never more cheerful, and at no time evinced any indisposition, except on Monday morning, when he told me he had some sensation of dyspepsia, of which he had once or twice in our other trips complained.

He had been very temperate, both in eating and drinking, while we were together, as was his habit, and therefore the shock of his sudden demise was, to us, the more surprising and unexpected.

Your lamented husband always, in all his trips, especially during this last, evinced the greatest love for his family, and his greatest solicitude was ever to quickly return to his home, where, as he frequently told me, he was happier than anywhere else.

\* \* \* \* \*

A number of his old friends, among them Judge Street, Judge Baldwin, and R. S. Douglas, Esq., and others, called in soon after the news reached the citizens of his death, to see his remains and to offer their services. Messrs. Snyder, Bent and D. T. Casement, officers of the Union Pacific Railroad, as soon as they received my telegram, announcing the event, came over from Omaha, and have, with Col. Nutt, made every arrangement for his obsequies to-morrow morning, and his subsequent carriage to his home in Keokuk, Dr. White, Col. Nutt, Col. Sapp, Major Bent and myself purposing to accompany his remains.

Knowing the General, as I did, while a Cadet at West Point, and more particularly since he has been associated with me as Government Commissioner on the Union Pacific Railroad and branches, I am well apprized of his many manly and kind qualities of head and heart, but to no one will the news of his sudden demise come with more stunning effect than to his family, whom he so dearly loved.

Be assured, Madam, that you have the heartfelt condolence of a large circle of his old Congressional constituents in this city; of his many friends connected with the Union Pacific Railroad at Omaha, and especially of his late colleagues, Dr. White and myself, who have been thus deprived so suddenly of his co-operation with us in the official discharge of our duties.

With sentiments of commingled grief and regard, I am very respectfully, your obedient servant and friend,

J. H. SIMPSON,

Brevet Brig. Gen. U. S. A., and President of the Board of Commissioners of the Union Pacific Railroad and Branches.

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**Letter from Judge Baldwin.**

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA, Dec. 26, 1866.

HON. R. P. LOWE: *Dear Judge*—Knowing your intimacy and personal friendship with Gen. CURTIS and his family, I supposed you would be anxious to hear of the particulars of his death. I have just been down to see him. He died about an hour ago, at half-past nine this morning. Gen. Simpson and Dr. White, the other Commissioners, were with him at the time of his death. They told me that when they left Omaha this morning, Gen. C. was in fine health and very lively, and had been for some time. They all walked over on the ice, and got

into a carriage on this side. The General got into the carriage, and after he had been seated a few minutes he gave a kind of a groan and gurgling sound, and died. Gen. Simpson told me he was sitting by the side of the General. Dr. White remarked to him, "Gen. CURTIS looks pale and faint," and as he said so Gen. CURTIS fell over on him. They ordered the driver to drive with all speed to Colonel Nutt's house, but by the time they got there, nothing could be done for him. Dr. White says that he thinks the General died of congestion of the brain. I am inclined to think so. It was a very cold morning—one of those north, piercing winds blowing. It may be that in crossing the river this wind affected him. The wind is much more severe on the river than elsewhere. You know how the wind strikes in crossing the Des Moines to the Capital.

Col. Nutt will start with the remains to-night to Keokuk. He will go by Chicago.

Yours truly,

C. BALDWIN.

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From the Council Bluffs (Iowa) Nonpareil, Dec. 27, 1866.

The numerous friends throughout this State and nation are suddenly called upon to mourn the loss of him whose name appears at the head of this article.

Apparently in good health, Gen. CURTIS, in company with the other members of the Commission, was returning from Nebraska, having been called hence to examine and pass upon the last section of the first three hundred miles of the Union Pacific Railroad, and while riding in a carriage on their return, yesterday morning, between Omaha and this city, he was attacked with apoplexy, and only survived long enough to reach the home of Col. Nutt, in this city, then to expire.

His remains, under the special charge of Col. Nutt, will be removed at 9 o'clock this morning to St. Johns, accompanied by Gen. Simpson and Dr. White, (the other members of the Commission) where a special train is in waiting to carry them to his home at Keokuk.

We purpose making a more extended notice of the deceased hereafter. His name has long been identified with the State of Iowa, having represented the First District in Congress for three successive terms, and surrendered the same voluntarily at the outbreak of the rebellion, to enter the army and assist in battling down the ramparts of treason. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of the deceased.

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From the St. Louis (Mo.) Democrat, Dec. 27, 1866.

Our readers will regret to learn that Major General CURTIS died of apoplexy at Council Bluffs yesterday morning. His remains will at once be removed to Keokuk, where they will arrive Friday night.       \*       \*       \*       \*       \*       \*

His name holds an honorable place in the roll of those who saved the nation from rebellion, and his record is part of the history of the country. Since the war he has engaged again in important railroad enterprises, and was one of the Government Commissioners for the Union Pacific road. He was also one of three Commissioners by whom important treaties were effected with the Indian tribes last summer.

The death of such a man is a loss that cannot be repaired. He was a man of excellent ability and of spotless character, shrewd in his plans and vigorous in execution, a man of enter-

prise and public spirit, and withal a true patriot. Whether in war or in peace, his talents have been employed for the benefit of his country, and his services will not soon be forgotten.

From the Keokuk (Iowa) Gate City, Dec. 27, 1866.

Major General SAMUEL R. CURTIS died yesterday morning (26th inst.) at Council Bluffs, of apoplexy. The announcement has caused the profoundest regret in this city, and will throughout the State and the country, with the history of which, in peace and war, Gen. CURTIS has markedly connected himself. His varied services in civil and military place have made for him wide reputation, and thus many communities will deplore his death.

In this biographical notice we make no apologies for transferring here the major portion of the sketch of him given in Captain Stuart's history of "Iowa Colonels and Regiments." It was written while Gen. CURTIS was yet alive, and with the promise of many years before him, that could not have failed to have been alike honorably and usefully employed. The author above named said:

"Samuel Ryan Curtis, Iowa's distinguished statesman and soldier, was the second Colonel and the first general officer appointed from the State. He is Iowa's first and oldest Major General, and, at the time of entering the service, was more widely known than any other officer sent out from the State; for, almost from the State's infancy, he has stood prominent among her public men. \* \* \* \* \*

"In 1856. Gen. Curtis was elected to Congress from the First Congressional District of Iowa, and in 1858, and again in 1860



was re-elected from the same district. In the canvass of 1860, his opponent was the Hon. C. C. Cole, now Judge of the Supreme Court of Iowa, and one of the ablest debaters and most popular men in the State. No better proof could be had of the General's ability as a statesman, and of the integrity of his record, than this final endorsement of him by the people; indeed, nearly every section of his District gave him increased majorities.

“From the organization of the party, he has been an earnest and consistent Republican; but that for which he became most distinguished in Congress was the part he acted in securing the passage of the Pacific Railroad Act. Others have claimed the honor, but he is the father of this enterprise, as is evidenced by his elaborate speeches and demonstrations of record in the annals of Congress. I should also add that he was a leading member of the committee on Military Affairs. He had, I am credibly informed, much to do with the efforts of the House, in countervailing the schemes of Jeff. Davis, in his manipulations of our military forces to his base purposes.

“Gen. Curtis' patriotism was always fervent, and, though others have made a more brilliant reputation in the war, none responded more promptly to the first call of national alarm; and, I may add, *none have led armies and fought battles with more uniform success.* Leaving his home in the West on the first news of the attack on Fort Sumter, he started for Washington; and, meeting at Philadelphia the gallant 7th New York, Colonel Lefferts, embarked with it on transports for Annapolis. From that point the march was made through the heat and dust by day and night to Washington. Returning to Keokuk, he assisted in raising volunteers, and was, on the 1st of

June, elected Colonel of the 2d Iowa Infantry, (the first three-years' regiment from the State) by the unanimous vote of the officers and men. Ten days later and at midnight, he was summoned by General Lyon by telegraph to Northern Missouri, and marched next day with his regiment for that point. Besides capturing many prisoners, guns, &c., he established at once in Northern Missouri the military authority of the Federal Government.

"In the latter part of June, he left again for Washington to be present at the extra session of Congress, and while there was made a Brigadier-General. He now resigned his seat in Congress, and, reporting at St. Louis, Missouri, was soon after placed in command, first of Jefferson Barracks, next of the Camp of Instruction at Benton Barracks, and finally of the St. Louis District. While holding the last named command, the President devolved on him the duties connected with the change of commanders—a most delicate and painful service, which he neither sought nor desired; but for the prudence and decision he displayed in the discharge of these duties, he received the special thanks of Mr. Lincoln.

"In December 1861, General Curtis was placed in command of the District of Southwest Missouri, and at once repaired to Rolla, where he established his head-quarters. Having organized his army in the early part of January, 1862, he marched against General Price, and drove him through Missouri and Northern Arkansas. On this march, the enemy were encountered in several skirmishes and engagements. The culminating one was the sanguinary battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas. It resulted in a brilliant victory to the Federal arms, and in the restoration of the flag and the authority of the Government in that State "

Thirteen days after the battle of Pea Ridge he was made a Major General, and during all the war none wore the rank better. Of his subsequent celebrated and successful march through Arkansas to Helena, and the expeditions he organized from there we shall not speak. While at Helena, says Captain Stuart, "Though burdened with the cares of a large military command, Gen. CURTIS did not forget that magnificent enterprise, for the success of which he had, in civil life, labored so untiringly, and, I may add, so successfully. Having been made one of the corporators, he obtained a leave of absence from the War Department to attend the Pacific Railroad Convention at Chicago. He was chosen and acted as President of that body. In the future that assemblage will be looked upon as a land-mark of a new era; for it organized and inaugurated the great work which is now in progress, to connect the two oceans and bind the continent together with iron bands.

"On the 19th of September, 1862, Gen. Curtis was assigned to the command of the Department of the Missouri, with head-quarters at St. Louis. At that time this department included the States of Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, the Territories of Nebraska, Colorado, and the Indian Territory. The military forces consisted of the armies of the Southwest, the Frontier, and Southeast Missouri. The department was subsequently diminished by the withdrawal of Arkansas. While in command of this department, his troops fought the following battles: Cane Hill, Old Town, Wayne, Prairie Grove, Springfield, Hartsville, Cape Girardeau, besides capturing Fort Smith and Van Buren, Arkansas. There were also many skirmishes and engagements of lesser note. But Gen. Curtis was too radical for that early day of the struggle. His anti-Slavery spirit was distasteful to the conservative Governor of Missouri, and, harrassed

by the importunities of that official, and other influential conservative men of the State, the President relieved the General of his command, after a successful and, with the true friends of the Government, a popular administration of eight months. The President expressly stated that he had no fault to find with the General's administration, but that he was willing to yield to the wishes of the conservative party, headed by Governor Gamble, and see, if by inaugurating a more lenient policy, he could not conciliate hostile factions, and heal the breach in the Union party of Missouri." But we know that Mr. Lincoln was wrong and Gen. CURTIS right.

Gen. CURTIS was next assigned to the Department of Kansas, January 1st, 1864. In the fall of that year he had again to chase Price from Missouri, which he did in a succession of brilliant victories. Subsequently he was assigned to the command of the Department of the Northwest. Since coming from there, and his being mustered out of the service, he has been busied in discharging his official duties in the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad. We presume that it is while on this duty he thus so suddenly ceases at once to work and live.

Gen. CURTIS had solid abilities, better than brilliance. He has filled more stations, requiring sound judgment and ability and industry, than any other man in Iowa, and in none has he been other than successful. The State suffers great loss in losing him. Hereafter the judgment of the author before quoted will be justified. He said truly: "General Curtis has a proud record, whether before or during the war of the rebellion; and when this great conflict shall have closed, and a true love of the Nation's ancient motto re-enshrined in the hearts of all, he will stand, with the honest historian, as one of the most practical and deserving men of his day."

From the Cleveland (Ohio) Herald, Dec. 27th, 1866.

The death, by apoplexy, at Council Bluffs, Iowa, of General SAMUEL R. CURTIS, occurred on the 26th.

The deceased has been a man of mark in civil and military life. His early life was spent in Ohio. Henry B. Curtis, a distinguished lawyer, and very estimable citizen of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, was a brother of the General. The deceased formerly was a resident of Mount Vernon. He graduated at West Point in 1831, served a short time in the army, and resigned, taking up the law and practising in this State. The deceased entered the service again in the Mexican war as Colonel, served under General Taylor, and was Military Governor of Matamoras and other conquered places.

After the Mexican war he moved from Ohio to Iowa, taking up his residence at Keokuk, where he was elected to the 35th Congress, and re-elected to the 36th, serving on important committees. Gen. CURTIS was a delegate to the Peace Congress, and was again elected to the National Congress in 1860, but resigned in 1861, taking a position in the army as Brigadier General, serving with distinction through the rebellion. General CURTIS for a part of the rebellion was in command of the Department of the Southwest, including Missouri and Arkansas.

Gen. CURTIS was in command at the battle near Springfield, Mo., February 11th, 1862, in which he whipped the rebel General Price and took possession of Springfield, driving Price from Missouri. CURTIS followed the rebel General into Arkansas, cutting up Price's forces, and capturing stores and prisoners, and securing all the strongholds in that State, driving Price beyond Boston Mountains, where he was reinforced and soon after was fought the famous battle of Pea Ridge, where,

after three days fighting, General CURTIS drove the Confederate forces and found Union dead tomahawked and scalped on the field of battle. The military career of Gen. CURTIS ranks with the most brilliant of the war.

After the war the deceased returned to private life. At the time of his death General CURTIS was one of the Government Commissioners for the Pacific Railroad. He was one of the excursionists in October to the 100th meridian and was then in good health and spirits. Gen. CURTIS had a very commanding presence. He was tall, with a very massive brow—reminding one of both Webster and Chase—had a deep-set, black, penetrating, yet kind, eye; was of quite stern expression when his features were in repose, but animated and winning in conversation, his countenance lighting up with remarkable brilliancy and attractiveness when interested and engaged. The manners of the General were exceedingly courteous and kind, and he always was the centre of attraction when drawn out. His age was about 60, he having been born Feb. 3, 1807.

From the Keokuk (Iowa) Constitution, Dec. 27, 1866.

We learn by a special dispatch to his family, in this city, that Major General SAMUEL R. CURTIS died suddenly of apoplexy yesterday morning at Council Bluffs, Iowa, and that his remains will be forwarded to this city immediately. The announcement of the death of no citizen of the State of Iowa will bring more sincere sorrow to the hearts of the whole people of the State, and especially to the citizens of Keokuk, than that of General CURTIS. He removed to this city with his family from his native State, Ohio, about twenty years ago, and has resided here almost ever since; and but few men ever lived so long in any

community who had more devoted friends and fewer enemies than the subject of this notice had in the city of Keokuk.

He was a man of strict integrity in all the relations of life, both public and private, and in the social circle of family and friends his heart was as warm and genial as his impulses were noble and generous. In his capacity of Congressman he was devoted to the interests of his State and the constituency whose Representative he was ; and in projecting the great Pacific Railway the whole country is more indebted to him than to any other man in the United States.

In the Mexican war and in the war of the late rebellion, Gen. CURTIS distinguished himself as a soldier, and proved himself to be a sincere lover of his country, for which he left his family and friends and risked his life on several hard fought battle fields.

Alas ! our friend is gone. We shall meet him again no more on earth. But as his death fills our heart with grief, what shall we say of the stricken wife and other members of his family ? Their loss is indeed irreparable. We can only assure them of our sincere sympathy in their great affliction. May the Lord God of Israel be with and comfort the wife of our deceased friend.

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#### **Preamble and Resolutions.**

At a meeting of Damascus Commandery No. 5, of Knights Templar, held on Thursday evening, Dec. 27th, 1866, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted :

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His wise providence to remove from our midst Major General SAMUEL R. CURTIS, our beloved Sir Knight and friend, one of the charter members of this Commandery, and

summon him from this transient existence to the eternal world ; therefore, as a testimonial of our fraternal regard, be it

*Resolved*, 1st. That while we submit resignedly to this painful dispensation, we cannot refrain from expressing our deep and heartfelt sorrow at the loss of one who, as a Sir Knight and friend, we loved and esteemed for his eminent qualities of head and heart so fitted to endear him to all.

2d. That we extend to his family in this hour of grief, our sincere condolence and sympathy in the sad affliction which has befallen them, and mingle our tears with theirs over the remains of one who has fallen while honors were clustering thickly upon him and he was held in such high estimation by his fellow men.

3d. That in testimony of our respect for the departed Sir Knight, our banners will be draped and the members of our Commandery will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

4th. That these resolutions be furnished to the family of the deceased, and sent to the city papers for publication.

M. K. TAYLOR,	} Committee.
H. W. WOOD,	
C. K. PECK,	

From the Cincinnati (Ohio) Commercial, Dec. 28, 1866.

Major General SAMUEL R. CURTIS, whose death at Council Bluffs, on Wednesday, has been already announced, was born in Ohio, February 3, 1807, his parents having at that time just removed from Connecticut. He graduated at West Point in 1831, and was appointed Lieutenant of Infantry, but resigned the following year. Afterward he practiced law in Ohio, and was chief engineer of the Muskingum works from 1837 to 1840. He went to Mexico as Colonel, under General Taylor ; after the war, was employed in railroad and other engineering in Missouri and Iowa, and at length settled at Keokuk, in the latter State. He was elected and served through the Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth Congress, and re-elected to the Thirty-seventh, but resigned in 1861 to accept a commission in the army. At the close of



the war he held the rank of Major General, and has lately officiated as one of the Commissioners of the Union Pacific Railroad.

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From the Des Moines (Iowa) Register, Dec. 28, 1866.

The announcement of the death of this distinguished citizen of Iowa, gave a shock and pang to all hearts. A fortnight since he passed through this city on his way to the Pacific Road, as one of the Commission to inspect the last Division completed. He was in excellent health and spirits and visited a number of our citizens to congratulate them on the growth of Des Moines and its cheering prospects.

By the death of Gen. CURTIS the State sustains a severe loss. To his family and friends the loss is irreparable. In his domestic relations he was peculiarly happy. The cold hand of death will almost paralyze the loving hearts of wife and children. We would enter that afflicted circle only to utter the words of sympathy and condolence.

It is fifteen or twenty years since Gen. CURTIS became a citizen of Keokuk. He had lived an active life in Ohio, in charge of important works of public improvement. In the Mexican war he commanded an Ohio regiment with great honor to himself and the State. In this State and at St. Louis, he had control of important public works, calling into full exercise his engineering skill. He was chosen Mayor of Keokuk and subsequently thrice elected to Congress. In that body he occupied important positions, exerted a large influence and contributed largely to create a sentiment in favor of the great enterprise of uniting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. He lived to see the work advanced

far towards a successful issue. Completed, it will stand as one of the monuments of his comprehensive statesmanship.

Educated at West Point, Gen. CURTIS always recognized the claims of the Government upon him, and promptly resigned his seat in Congress to take command of the second regiment raised in Iowa for the defense of the Government against Southern traitors. By rapid promotion he reached the rank of Major General. In every stage of the conflict, and in all the trying positions in which he was placed, he performed well his part, retaining the affection of his troops and the confidence of the President. In the terrible three days' conflict at Pea Ridge, he managed his army with consummate skill, and achieved one of the most brilliant victories of the war over a force double his own in number, and commanded by veteran rebel officers.

Ripe in honors and in years, he falls in the performance of public duties, with his harness on. The people of the State of his adoption unite in a tribute to his memory. Their affection is a living monument.

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From the Chicago (Ill.) Tribune, Dec. 28, 1866.

In our telegrams of yesterday was announced the death of Maj. Gen. SAMUEL R. CURTIS, well known as the hero of Pea Ridge, and since the close of the war, one of the Commissioners appointed by Government to inspect the several sections of the Union Pacific Railroad and its branches. \* \* \* \*

A meeting of military officers was called, yesterday morning, in the office of Hon. W. B. Seates, Collector of the Port of Chicago, at which it was resolved to proceed to the cars and escort the remains from the Wells street depot to the depot of

the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, in the evening. The gentlemen who assembled for the melancholy duty were General L. P. Bradley, General M. R. M. Wallace, General W. B. Seates, General Erskine, General O. L. Mann, Colonel Hayden, Colonel D. G. Rush, and Dr. S. C. Blake. The remains were taken out last evening for Keokuk, Iowa, attended by General Simpson and Dr. White, on the part of the Government, and Mr. Bent, of the Union Pacific Railroad, and Colonels Nutt and Sapp, on the part of the citizens of Council Bluffs.

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From the Chicago (Ills.) Journal, Dec. 28, 1866.

General SAMUEL R. CURTIS, the sad tidings of whose sudden death from apoplexy, at Council Bluffs, has already been announced, was one of the foremost men of Iowa. In the late war he bore a conspicuous and always an honorable part. Thousands of soldiers who served under him will mourn his loss.

\* \* \* \* \*

In 1856, General CURTIS was elected to Congress, and in 1858, and again in 1860, he was re-elected. As a statesman, he deserves to be remembered with gratitude by all, especially at the West, for the services which he rendered in securing the passage of the Pacific Railroad act. It will be remembered by many of our readers that he was President of the Pacific Railroad Convention, at Chicago, which may be said to have organized and inaugurated that work, of which he, more than any living man, was the father. It was therefore most fit that he should be, until the time of his death, Pacific Railroad Commissioner.

The record of General CURTIS as a soldier in the late war was specially honorable. Like his colleague, General Vandever, he

resigned his seat in Congress to help in crushing the slaveholders' rebellion. He led to the field the first three years' regiment raised in Iowa, and soon won the stars of a Major General. The most important battle which he fought was perhaps that of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, in which General Price was routed. It was one of the most decisive of any in the Southwest. On other occasions General CURTIS met Price, and always out-generated him.

The only attempt ever made to disparage his good name was in connection with the cotton speculations which were carried on to a certain extent in his department. But it is now conceded, even by his enemies, that the General had no complicity whatever in that illicit traffic. On the contrary, he did what he could to suppress it.

Iowa is not at all poor in great men, but in losing General CURTIS that State sustained an irreparable loss. Eminently practical in his turn of mind, he rendered invaluable service both as a civilian and as a soldier.

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Meeting of Eagle and Hardin Lodges of A. F. & A. M.

MASONIC HALL, Dec. 28, 1866.

At a special communication of Eagle and Hardin Lodges of A. F. & A. M., it was resolved that both Lodges join in the procession to attend the funeral services of Bro. SAMUEL R. CURTIS.      \*      \*      \*      \*      \*      \*      \*

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From the Keokuk (Iowa) Gate City, Dec. 28, 1866.

A large number of citizens met at 10 o'clock A. M. yesterday, in the office of Gen. Belknap, to confer with reference to the reception of the body of Gen. CURTIS, and his burial. Gen. H.

T. Reid was called to the Chair and S. M. Clark made Secretary. Gen. Reid announced the death of Gen. CURTIS, and the object in meeting. After a general interchange of views, the following Committee of Arrangements, with Gen. Reid, Chairman, was appointed on motion of Gen. Bridgman, viz: Gen. H. T. Reid, Gen. A. Bridgman, Dr. J. C. Hughes, Col. S. M. Archer, Gen. W. W. Belknap, Smith Hamill, Esq., and Col. J. W. Rankin.

Gen. Reid notified the committee to meet at 2 p. m., at Gen. Belknap's office.

On motion, adjourned.

H. T. REID, Chairman.

S. M. CLARK, Secretary.

#### The Funeral of General Curtis.

The Committee appointed at a meeting of citizens, held at the office of the Collector of Internal Revenue on Thursday, at 2 o'clock p. m., adopted the following preamble and resolution, on motion of Wm. W. Belknap.

In anticipation of the funeral of Major General CURTIS occurring on Sunday, December 30th, at 2 o'clock p. m. :

*Resolved*, That the Chairman of the Committee be requested to invite the members of military organizations during the war, city authorities and other civil officers, and the citizens generally, together with the Masonic, Fire and other civic associations, members of the bar and medical profession, and especially the members of the Second Iowa Volunteers, to attend the funeral at the late residence of the deceased, on the corner of Second and High streets, on Sunday, at 2 p. m. All military organizations are requested to meet at the Estes House, at 1½ o'clock p. m., with colors appropriately draped, to proceed to the residence, from which point the procession will move to the Episcopal Church, and thence to the Cemetery; that a Major General's salute of thirteen guns be fired as the procession moves from the church to the grave; that the bells be tolled during the same time, and that

the flags of the city be displayed at half staff; that, in accordance with their generous offer, the Knights Templar are requested to act as an escort and body-guard for the reception and custody of the remains, and that a Chief Marshal be appointed, with authority to select such aides as he may deem necessary to carry out these arrangements.

On motion of Dr. Hughes, General D. B. Hillis was appointed Chief Marshal, and Messrs. S. G. Bridges, Howard Tucker, and C. P. McCune, a special Committee to make the necessary arrangements.

H. T. REID, Chairman.

WM. W. BELKNAP, Secretary.

In accordance with the foregoing resolution, all the military and civic associations, the city authorities, and officers and citizens generally, are requested to take part in the funeral ceremonies of the late Major General CURTIS. It is requested that the flags of the city be displayed, draped in mourning, on the day of the funeral. In case the remains should not arrive in time, the funeral will be deferred until Monday, in which case notice will be given in the papers on Sunday morning.

H. T. REID, Chairman.

From Keokuk (Iowa) Gate City, Dec. 29, 1866.

We publish elsewhere a letter from Gen. CURTIS, and one of the last written by him. This gives the subject a mournful interest apart from the interesting character of the letter itself:

END OF PACIFIC RAILROAD, NEBRASKA, Dec. 24, 1866.

*Messrs. Editors:* Having a leisure hour, I am inclined to say a word to my neighbors of Keokuk concerning their Western Railroad connections. I have traveled out West 645 miles by rail, except two short stages, one 35 miles, from Des Moines to Ames' Station, and another from St. Johns to Council Bluffs, 25 miles; and been at mid-winter, far out on the prairie, one hundred miles beyond cultivated farms. I am at the very end

of the last rail. It is not very cold and there is no snow, but the ground is hard frozen and the men have "knocked off," laid down their tools, and further progress must await the softening influences of spring. From this point it is about 300 miles to Denver, and stages run daily, making the trip in less than three days. In the meantime, great preparatory arrangements are being made by the railroad company for pushing forward the work in early spring, in confident hope of reaching the base of the mountains next spring.

This is realizing all my hopes, and accomplishing wonders for Iowa. It is connecting us with the mining region, and as we are the nearest producers we must furnish the miners with supplies.

This railroad extension also draws through Iowa a great portion of the overland travel, and emigrants to Oregon and California will also take this route, and find in Iowa the most convenient and economical supplies for their overland outfit.

But the greatest advantage to Iowa and all the Northwest, is the extension of our Iowa system of railroads, and the development of the country. All the several Iowa railroad lines are now making earnest efforts to push their way through the State to secure a share of the Pacific Railroad business. There is a road being constructed from St. Joseph to Sioux City, running along the Missouri Valley, which will connect all our Iowa roads with the Pacific road, and fortunately for us, that Missouri Valley road is in safe hands, well endowed with means, and sure to be completed in a year or eighteen months. Our railroads may all, therefore, soon find easy and close connections with the great trunk which is designed in a few years to reach the Pacific Ocean.

The scarcity of timber in Western Iowa has delayed settlements, and the vast region of the Northwest never could be

developed without railroad facilities. The Pacific Railroad will attract so many lines through our prairies as to accommodate all sections of our State, and secure the early cultivation of the richest portion of our domain. Western Iowa is a rolling prairie country, abounding in rich soil and clear streams of water. Railroads crossing the coal fields of the Des Moines Valley will carry out fuel at cheap rates, and lumber will come from the forests of the Des Moines and Wisconsin and Minnesota for fencing and houses.

The growth of groves of timber also exceeds all my expectations, and counties that thirteen years ago, when I first passed through, seemed very destitute of even fuel, now show quite an abundance of timber.

Campaigning and traveling around and over Iowa for years past, possessing extraordinary opportunities to observe our own and neighboring States, I am more than ever convinced of our superior advantages and prospects, and rejoice in my home in Iowa, on the banks of our bright and beautiful Mississippi.

S. R. C.

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#### Meeting of the Keokuk Bar.

At a meeting of the members of the Keokuk Bar, held at the Court House in Keokuk on Saturday, the 29th inst., at 9 o'clock A. M., on motion of Col. John W. Rankin, Hon. D. F. Miller was called to the Chair, and Edward Mumm, Esq., was appointed Secretary.

On taking the Chair, Mr. Miller said:

*Gentlemen of the Keokuk Bar:*

I suppose you all understand the object of this meeting. General SAMUEL R. CURTIS, late a member of this Bar, has



recently deceased; and the Committee of Arrangements, having the funeral services of the illustrious deceased in charge, have invited us in a body to attend the obsequies.

We *all* personally knew the deceased; and we all esteemed and loved him for his private virtues and social qualities. He has gone, he has departed, and we shall know him no more in *earth life*. But he has left a fame behind him which is immortal. As a member of this bar, he adorned it with his genial disposition and conduct, and dignified it with his learning and abilities. As a civil engineer, (for his learning was very extensive,) let that performance of his, by which he turned the channel of the Mississippi and saved the harbor of St. Louis, attest to his greatness in that department of science. As a patriot, let his military services in Mexico, and in the rebellion, declare his best eulogium. As a General, his victory at Pea Ridge, fought with consummate strategy and ability, and which virtually annihilated rebellion in the States of Arkansas and Missouri, has consecrated his fame and embalmed his name in American history.

Indeed, a great man has fallen! and it much concerns us as surviving members of the Keokuk Bar, that we unite with the rest of the citizens of Keokuk, in doing appropriate honors to the memory of the distinguished dead.

After the remarks of the Chairman, on motion, the following gentlemen, to-wit: Col. J. W. Rankin, John H. Craig, Esq., R. H. Gillmore, Esq., H. Scott Howell, Esq., and H. B. Ten-Eyck, Esq., were appointed a Committee to draft resolutions expressive of the feeling of the Keokuk Bar upon the death of their deceased brother, Gen. SAMUEL R. CURTIS; whereupon the

committee retired, and after a short time reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

1. With profound regret we have heard of the death of Major-General S. R. CURTIS.

2. General CURTIS was an honor to his profession while he was a member. He served the General Government without reproach, and with especial honor—in the war with Mexico, and in the great rebellion of the 19th century he exhibited a pure patriotism which his brethren of the Bar present as a spectacle of personal and national devotion.

3. General CURTIS died on duty; therefore, we recommend his life and example to the young men of the West, pioneers and adopted citizens, and say to them, one and all, “go and do as he did” in his life, and enjoy the honors of the dead.

4. In his sudden death, we have lost a true and noble friend, society has lost a most liberal contributor to its usefulness, humanity has lost a benefactor, and our entire community has lost one of the very best supporters of its advancement, its progress and its true civilization.

5. The members of the bar tender their condolence and heartfelt sympathy to the members of the family.

6. They will attend the funeral in a body.

7. They will wear the badge expressive of mourning for thirty days.

On motion, the following gentlemen were appointed to present a copy of the proceedings of this meeting to the City Council of Keokuk, and to the United States and State Courts of the State of Iowa, and ask that the same be spread upon their respective journals, to-wit: City Council of Keokuk, George W. McCrary, Esq.; Circuit Court of the United States, Hon. D. F. Miller; District Court of the United States, S. T. Marshall, Esq.; Supreme Court of Iowa, Col. J. W. Rankin; District Court, 1st Judicial District of Iowa, R. H. Gillmore, Esq.

H. Scott Howell, J. W. Rankin, D. Mooar, and Gibson Browne, Esqrs., delivered eloquent speeches eulogistic of the character of the deceased.

On motion, the following gentlemen, to-wit: D. Mooar, Eric J. Leech, and Gibson Browne, Esqrs., were appointed a Com-

mittee to present a copy of the proceedings of this meeting, in manuscript, signed by its officers, to the widow and family of the deceased.

On motion of George W. McCrary, Esq., it was voted that the Secretary furnish a copy of the proceedings of this meeting, for publication in each of the city papers, to-morrow morning.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

DANIEL F. MILLER, Chairman.

EDWARD MUMM, Secretary.

KEOKUK, December 29th, 1866.

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Address of Geo. W. McCrary to the City Council of Keokuk.

*Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen of the City Council :*

I have been directed by the members of the Bar of this city to present to you the proceedings of their meeting, held on the 29th ultimo, with reference to the death of our late honored and distinguished fellow-citizen, Major-General SAMUEL R. CURTIS, and to ask you to place upon your records the resolutions adopted by them, as a feeble tribute of respect to the memory of the illustrious deceased, who, I need hardly assure you, was held by every member of our profession in the highest esteem and respect as a friend, as a neighbor, as a citizen, as a statesman, as a soldier and a General, and as an honored, upright and most exemplary member of the legal fraternity. It were useless for me to dwell at length upon the life and character of Gen. CURTIS, especially in addressing you who knew him so intimately and esteemed him so highly for many years. Suffice it to say, that he lived a long life of uprightness and usefulness, a life characterized by sterling honesty, by a high sense of jus-

tice, and a strict regard for the rights of all—a life full of good deeds—of noble aims and generous impulses. Few men have had fewer enemies. Indeed, I know not that in passing on he left a single personal enemy behind, and this is the more wonderful when we remember the stormy scenes of his life, and especially the many bitter contests of the last ten years in which he was so prominent an actor. We can account for it only by remembering his uniform courtesy and kindness towards his opponents—the fact that he never gave them cause for offense, and was always ready to forget injuries, and to forgive those who offended him. In looking at his private character, we may, I think, truly say that he was a good man, and we may well commend his life as an example to be studied and imitated. Gen. CURTIS was in the best sense a great man. There are those who excel in some one department of life, but who are unfitted for the duties of any other, and there are those who fill with honor and success the varied duties of all the relations they are called to sustain. Of the latter class was our lamented friend, Gen. CURTIS. Like the father of his country, he was equally distinguished in war and in peace.

Gen. CURTIS filled many and various positions of honor and trust among his countrymen, and in every one of them he greatly distinguished himself. At the Military Academy at West Point he was among the first students, and graduated with distinguished honors. At the Bar he was successful, and occupied a position of prominence, and enjoyed a reputation for integrity and ability which any of his brethren who remain behind him may be happy to attain. As a Civil Engineer, he was justly celebrated; and some of his successful labors in this department, at St. Louis and elsewhere, will remain a monument to honor his memory in ages to come. As a General, he is best known to

the country and the world. The history of his military achievements is a part of the history of our country, and as time passes on and the real truth of history comes to be known, he will be more and more appreciated and honored for his services to his country, to humanity, to constitutional freedom and human liberty.

As a statesman he was one of the first men in the Congress of this great nation. Though elected as a partisan, he gave his chief attention to measures calculated to develop the resources of our great country, and especially the West, and he may, indeed, be justly styled the champion of that greatest work of internal improvement known among men—the Pacific Railroad.

He was especially interested in the prosperity of his beloved Iowa, and of this the city of his home, and one of the last letters he ever wrote was dated at the farthest extremity of the completed part of the Pacific Railroad, and was filled with indications of his anxious desire for our prosperity. His death is indeed a bereavement to us all; to the nation which he served so bravely and so well; to the State which he loved so much; to the city of his home; to the soldiers whom he led to glory and to victory; to each and all of us as his friends and neighbors, and above all, to the stricken widow and family of the deceased, to whom let our sympathy, deep, strong and earnest, be tendered, as some poor consolation in this, the time of their great sorrow.

JAN. 14, 1867.

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Remarks of R. H. Gilmore, Esq.

At the February term of the District Court of Lee county,

Iowa, at Keokuk, in accordance with resolutions of the bar, Mr. Gillmore arose and said :

That his relations toward the deceased made him hesitate to say all that his feelings prompted and that he might truthfully say concerning the subject of the resolutions. General CURTIS had lived among us long, and was intimately known by our people. His affability rendered him approachable by all, and few men were more generally beloved. His private character was stainless ; he was uncontaminated by a single vice ; he was beyond and above suspicion in this regard. The example of his life was his most valuable bequest to the community in which he lived.

As a statesman, his position, too, always reflected honor on the State of Iowa. He was the father of the Pacific Railroad. In Congress he was the originator of the measure, and its able and persistent supporter so long as he remained a member. He lived to witness the actual prosecution of the work ; to see it stretching itself westward at the rate of a mile per day. The last labor of his life was an examination of a completed section of the road, then running more than three hundred miles into the heart of the wilderness.

Gen. CURTIS was especially prominent as a patriot and soldier. Perhaps his fellow citizens who knew best his goodness and gentleness may not be most appreciative of his heroic qualities, and yet none can doubt the position which history will give him.

When the rebellion broke out, he did not hesitate for a moment as to his course. Patriotism to him, was instinctive. Every fibre of his organism thrilled with loyalty. When the President was beleaguered in the Capitol of the nation, and treason held every avenue of approach, he hastened to New York, enrolled himself with the glorious Seventh regiment, went to Annapolis

by sea, and thence, with his handful of braves, marched on foot across Maryland, and, covered with dust, and travel-stained, drew up for review before the Presidential Mansion. It seems to me that it must have been the proudest moment of his life. If not so to him, it certainly was an event which we, his fellow citizens, the members of the Bar, among which his name is enrolled, may regard with unmixed admiration. History has no examples of patriotism more devoted, more simple and unselfish, or more sublime. If the painter shall one of these days desire to depict the brightest spot in the darkest hour of the rebellion he may find it here.

I cannot follow him through his military career. Nor is it necessary to recapitulate what we all so well know. We all remember vividly how untiringly he, as Colonel of the Second regiment, acted as drill master on our bluffs: how his prompt action saved Missouri, and, best of all, how his star rose in the ascendant at Pea Ridge. Few battles of the war show such a disparity of forces, and such decided success on the part of the smaller army. Van Dorn, with 25,000 men, offered battle. CURTIS, with 10,000, accepted the issue. The battle raged for two days, when the enemy, demoralized and routed, fled precipitately. Nor did the rebellion in the Southwest ever recover from the stunning blow it received at Pea Ridge.

Gen. CURTIS died in the prime and vigor of his manhood. Many apparent years of usefulness and happiness were before him. But he is gone from among us—

“He sleeps his last sleep, he has fought his last battle,  
No sound shall awake him to glory again.”

## Remarks of S. T. Marshall, Esq.,

At the March term of the U. S. District Court, at Keokuk, presented the resolutions of the bar with the following remarks :

On presenting these resolutions, it may not be out of place to speak of the acts and public services of the deceased. His fame, however, is not confined to our city or State, it is national.

As a citizen, Gen. CURTIS was justly respected ; as a husband, beloved, and as a father, venerated. In these three relations in life he enjoyed that *otium cum dignitate* which the good in all ages strive to attain.

Although his whole life was devoted to the public, he was not unmindful of those domestic relations which so endeared him to his family and neighbors and friends.

As a lawyer, he was successful and popular, never forgetting those endearing and manly courtesies of the profession, and in fact his open *suavitas in modo* made him the idol of the bar. For his deep learning and critical knowledge of the law, the General was greatly indebted to his elder brother, Hosmer Curtis, Esq., who has sustained an enviable reputation for near fifty years as a jurist, a man, and a scholar. He, too, has lived among us for many years, and, although much older than the General, he travels the down-hill of life, with a pleasant countenance, adding dignity and example to every step as he approaches the end.

As an Engineer, General CURTIS deservedly stood at the head of his profession, and the great West shows many monuments of his scientific skill in this department, and it is believed that the great city of St. Louis owes her preservation to his efforts as Engineer. His services will not be forgotten on the Des Moines improvement in our own State.



As a General, he was brave, patriotic and commanding. Having received an early military education, he always showed a martial bearing. Portly in person, his very appearance commanded respect and pointed him out as a leader, and his military record in Mexico and in the late rebellion will be written—"here is one American General who never lost a battle." Gen. CURTIS was from very right and justice entitled to be Secretary of War; and nothing but his extreme diffidence and natural modesty kept him from that office. The results of his great victory of Pea Ridge crushed the very life out of rebellion in the Southwest, and was almost as decisive in favor of the Government as was the battle of Pharsalia in favor of the great Roman.

It was soon acknowledged that where severity was required, no man was more moderate; and where mildness was necessary that no man maintained his dignity better. In the late rebellion, as Military Governor and as General, his *enraged* authority (to which had been given the name of tyranny) soon appeared to be the bulwark of the State. He drew, as it were, the Northwest from an abyss of misery and raised it to happiness and peace. The great secret of his success was justice, so tempered with mercy, that he overawed the vicious and secured the good will even of the foe and commanded his respect. He was the man of all others to negotiate a treaty with the enemy; his manner was free from duplicity, and his charity was proverbial. He was the American Pericles, without his ambition—save to do right—in this he was ambitious. He was perhaps the only true knight in the American Army in *military etiquette*, and was called the Alcibiades of modern times in person and address, without any of his extravagance or vices. And notwithstanding the deadly feeling existing between the combatants, and general antagonism of

the times, he acquitted himself with such address that his enemies were disarmed of their wrath, and a social feeling sprang up which produced good to the country. It has been said by many that General CURTIS died without an enemy.

As a statesman, General CURTIS has left an enviable reputation. He is styled the Father of the great Pacific Railway, to which he is most justly entitled. His whole heart was given to the project, and with untiring exertions did he prosecute it till success crowned his efforts. He was always a favorite of the people; he was the great REPUBLICAN of Iowa, yet many of the opposition supported him for Congress; and indeed the writer of this (though a Democrat) always was a great admirer of General CURTIS.

He was appropriately called the Cincinnatus of our Republic. Like him he gave his seat in Congress for a soldier's tent; his velvet carpets and downy bed for a saddle and a war horse, nor did he disappoint his government in expectations.

The sudden death of General CURTIS has thrown a gloom over the State, that will long be remembered. He died in the very midst of his fame and usefulness. He leaves a most amiable wife and interesting family, and is deeply regretted by a whole people. He deserves well of his country, of which it will not be *unmindful*.

#### Proceedings of the Keokuk City Council.

COUNCIL ROOMS, Dec. 29, 1866.

Present, the Mayor, and Aldermen Gillmore, Leisy, Mumm and Seaton.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Mayor stated that the object of this called meeting was to take into consideration the most appropriate manner of ren-

dering to our deceased distinguished fellow-townsmen, General SAMUEL R. CURTIS, that respect which is due to his memory.

After some remarks by members of the Board in eulogy of the valuable public services and great personal worth of the deceased, Alderman Mumm moved that a committee of three be appointed to draft suitable resolutions for the occasion; said resolutions to be published in both the daily papers, and a copy to be sent to the family of the deceased. Also, that all officers of the city government be requested to assemble at the Council Rooms at 12 M., on Monday next, and from thence to proceed in a body to attend the funeral of the late Gen. SAMUEL R. CURTIS. Motion carried.

The Mayor appointed the following committee on resolutions: Aldermen Mumm, Gillmore and Seaton.

The committee reported as follows:

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Almighty Disposer of events to remove from our midst Major General SAMUEL R. CURTIS;

*Resolved*, That while we deplore in his loss, the deprivation sustained by our whole country, of one of whom we had reason to be proud wherever the country had occasion for his services, whether as soldier, statesman or patriot; that as a community we have suffered an especial calamity in the loss of a citizen, who, in addition to all his great and shining qualities, afforded us the example of a life entirely pure, a character unspotted by any vice and a heart kind and benevolent towards all whom he encountered in the daily walks of life.

*Resolved*, That our city and State have lost by his death a citizen who has been always intimately connected with their material progress, and whose ability and influence have always been exerted for their benefit, and were especially needed at the present time.

*Resolved*, That we tender to his afflicted family our earnest sympathy in this sad bereavement.

The report of the committee was received and adopted.

Council adjourned.

E. WELCHMAN, Clerk.

From the Keokuk (Iowa) Constitution, Dec. 30th, 1866.

The remains of General CURTIS arrived in this city Saturday afternoon, accompanied by several friends of the deceased. They were met on their arrival at the landing on the Illinois side of the river by the Sir Knights of the Masonic Order, dressed in regalia, and other citizens, and escorted to the family dwelling of the deceased, where they will remain until to-morrow, when the funeral and burial will take place at the appointed time.

We learn from a gentleman who was present when the General died, that he and others had just previously walked across the Missouri river and gotten into a carriage to ride to Council Bluffs, the General being in his usual good health and spirits, but died in the carriage without a moment's warning, or a struggle. His sudden death is attributed to an affection of the heart, and not apoplexy, as heretofore stated.

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Order of the Procession for the Burial of Major General Curtis.

The procession for the burial of Maj. Gen. SAMUEL R. CURTIS will be formed on Main street, on Monday, the 31st inst., at 12 o'clock precisely, in the following order, with the right of the column resting on Fifth street, facing Fourth:

1. Military Band.
2. Knights Templar.
3. Hearse with Pall-Bearers.
4. Horse of the General, led by his Orderly.
5. Family (will join procession at residence.)
6. Second Iowa Infantry.
7. Masons, in their order.
8. Military Organizations (Infantry first.)
9. Young America Fire Company.

10. Other Fire Companies.
11. Mayor and Council, (in carriages.)
12. Members of the Bar, (in carriages.)
13. Clergy, (in carriages.)
14. Members of the Medical Procession, (in carriages.)
15. Other Associations.
16. Citizens, (in carriages.)
17. Citizens, (on horses.)
18. Citizens, (on foot.)

All of the above organizations are invited to attend.

The procession, having been formed as above, will proceed to the residence of the deceased, through the following streets, viz: Down Main to Fourth, up Fourth to Concert, down Concert to Second, and up that street to the residence,—where it will be halted—with the right of the column resting on High street, facing Third. From the residence the procession will proceed to the Chatham M. E. Church, by the way of the following streets, viz: Up High to Third, down Third to Main, out Main to Seventh, and up Seventh to the church, where it will be halted, with the right on Morgan street, facing Fifth.

After the conclusion of the services at the church, the procession will proceed to the Cemetery, via the following streets, viz: Down Morgan to Fifth, down Fifth to Main, and thence by the usual route.

Having arrived at the Cemetery, the burial services will be conducted by the Knights Templar.

The following time will be observed in firing the salute: The first gun will be fired when the procession begins to move from the church, and the firing will then be repeated every three minutes, till the whole number are fired.

It is hoped and requested that the various organizations, and

all of the carriages, will be at the designated place promptly at the hour for forming, and that the citizens will render all the aid they can in carrying out the above programme.

Col. S. M. Archer, Capt. Israel Anderson, and Henry Tebleman, Esq., are requested to act as Assistant Marshals.

D. B. HILLIS, Marshal.

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Extract from the Remarks of the Rev. Mr. Woods at the Funeral of Gen. Curtis.

[The address of the Rev. Mr. Woods was extemporaneous, and no copy of it could be had. The following is as near a copy as memory can reproduce.]

*I was dumb, I opened not my mouth : because thou didst it.*

—Psalm xxxix : 9.

The recognition of God's hand in all the events of life is the foundation of religion, and the ancients had this tendency in a far greater degree than the moderns. The disposition which prevails now is a proneness to scrutinize second causes and intermediate agencies, and to stop with them, and not to ascend to Him who sitteth beyond the veil of visible things, and reverently to refer events to His guiding and controlling will.

But there are times when we must recognize the action of Him in whose hand our breath is. To speak of one such when He touches the inner shrine, where the flame of life is nourished ; when he puts forth his hand and feels amid the heart-strings and snaps the silver cord, or lays his finger on the brain, the home of thought, and extinguishes the vital spark. Then we are roused from that obliviousness of God which constant contact with sensible objects is so apt to foster, and we realize that He is a God at hand, and not afar off.

The event we are met to signalize is of that kind. He whose fall we so deeply feel, over whose bier we mingle our tears, was

suddenly removed, and while science seems baffled in assigning the secondary cause which produced his death, we must look up with awe and reverence, and refer his removal to God, and we are constrained to imitate the psalmist, and say: "I was dumb, I opened not my mouth: because thou didst it."

1st. We open not our mouth in the spirit of complaining. To justify our complaint we should be able to say that God had injured us, and taken from us something which belonged to us. But the fact is all souls are His, and He orders the circumstances under which souls come into this world and the time of their stay, and the period of their departure. We often regard fathers and children, sisters and brothers, as *ours*, and so in a sense they are in virtue of temporary relations, which God has ordained, with the warning that they must soon be dissolved; but they are His by a complete ownership which rests on creation and preservation. Surely then, when He resumes His own, we cannot open our mouths in the way of complaining.

2d. We cannot open our mouths in the way of remonstrance. To warrant this we must have some reason for thinking that the Lord has marred some worthy design and spoiled some plan which deserved to be completed.

But what are our plans? Defective throughout. What is our foresight? Limited and erroneous. What are our expectations? Illusory and unwarranted. But God's plans are far-reaching, and adjusted in wisdom and goodness, and though some of his dealings may be shaded with the deepest mystery to us now, yet we may be assured that when they are read in the light of eternity we shall see love, wisdom and rectitude shining in every part of them, and we shall discover no point where we could suggest an alteration. We shall discern his goodness as plainly in those events which now shade our hearts with grief as

in those which cheer us with present joy. It behooves us then to acquiesce fully in this dispensation of Heaven. But while we do so we may estimate our loss in this event, and each one who knew the departed can do so for himself better than I can do it for him.

Citizens! you know how worthy this man was of your warm affections and your exalted regard. The many faces which are clouded with sorrow to-day, show that in his intercourse with his fellow citizens his noble qualities established a claim on their hearts which they spontaneously confess, and that his memory will be enshrined imperishably there.

Soldiers! in that coffin lie the inanimate remains of him in whom you recognized all the qualities which adorn the soldier, and whose renown shed lustre on those who shared with him the perils of the field and the toils and privations of the campaign.

And ye of his household! you saw him in those nameless and countless transactions which fill up the outlines of life—saw him in those hours when the last remnants of reserve were thrown off and the heart beat freely, and therefore in addition to those characteristics which elicited the admiration of others, you saw the gentle, tender qualities which evoked the most devoted love, and you found an object around which the heart's tendrils could cling with increasing tenacity. But I must not desecrate your sorrow by any attempt here to characterize it. Let me pray that He who has removed the earthly object of your love may become the Heavenly centre of affection to you all, and that He may so lift the light of his countenance upon you as to cheer you in this desolating bereavement.



## Major General Samuel R. Curtis.

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BY JOHN H. CRAIG.

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The moments of the dying year  
Were sadly waning to a close ;  
The hero lay upon his bier,  
In death's serene and deep repose.  
Life's sacred duties nobly done,  
His high career of glory run,  
Had filled the measure of his fame,  
And on the shining scroll of honor set his name.

His fearless heart, that dauntless led  
The front of battle, now was still ;  
And bowed in death the lofty head  
That bowed to none but Heaven's will.  
His words of high command no more  
Shall mingle with the crash of war ;  
Nor duty's voice, nor glory, call  
Him to the fields where heroes for their country fall.

His sword, undrawn, beside him lay ;  
His hands were folded on his breast ;  
And mute around his lifeless clay  
Stood those that knew and loved him best ;  
The hearse was waiting at the gate ;  
Within, his house was desolate ;  
And through the land afar and near,  
The nation mourned for him who pressed the warrior's bier.

The echoes of the minute gun,  
The tollings of the funeral bell,  
On saddened hearts that felt as one,  
Like strokes and shocks of sorrow fell.  
Through streets arrayed in funeral gloom,  
With banners draped, and muffled drum,  
And laden hearts, and solemn tread,  
They bore him to the silent city of the dead.

Beneath the bleak and wintry skies,  
 Upon the earth's cold frozen breast,  
 With mournful hearts, and swimming eyes,  
 They laid the warrior down to rest.  
 In tones subdued they sadly said  
 The burial service o'er his head,  
 And left him sleeping in the grave,  
 Wrapt in the still and solemn fame that shrouds the brave.

When the rebellious South arose,  
 And, in her pride of power, hurled  
 Her challenge in the face of those  
 Who kept in trust for all the world,  
 The great Republic of the free—  
 The hope and pledge of Liberty—  
 He left the place of peace, and chose  
 The post of death between his country and her foes.

Far in a Southern frontier wild,  
 Of tangled brakes and wooded steep—  
 Where many a heart in death was chilled,  
 And many a nameless hero sleeps—  
 From morning light till evening shade,  
 While crossed was many a bloody blade,  
 His spirit ruled the battle-storm  
 That swept and swayed the forest shade in fierce alarm.

From dawn again, till darkness hid  
 The ghastly battle-field at night,  
 His sword, like lightning, flashed amid  
 The thunders of that stormy fight;  
 And when at last the hero stood  
 Victorious on that field of blood,  
 And, like the light, the foe had fled,  
 Immortal Fame stooped from the stars and crowned his head.

He kept his trust of high command,  
 With faith and valor to the last,  
 Till peace was purchased for the land,  
 And treason's hour of pride was past.  
 Our homes to save, he fought and won,  
 While grief and death were in his own;  
 Nor paused his fallen son to mourn,  
 Until a rescued land rejoiced at Peace' return.

The iron-way that yet shall bind  
 The Eastern to the Western sea  
 Will bear the impress of his mind  
 And his proud monument shall be—  
 But ah ! though history writes his name  
 On the enduring roll's of fame  
 His silent grave and darkened hearth,  
 In sadness seem to say : "It is the end of earth."

The end of earth ; and can it be  
 The good and brave can ever die ?  
 The end of earth for such as he !  
 The very graves in which they lie  
 Are hallowed spots and holy shrines,  
 Where fame immortal burns and shines ;  
 Where Time shall come, and with him bring  
 Earth's gratitude and homage as an offering.

A high example never dies ;  
 Heroic actions perish not ;  
 Triumphant o'er the tomb they rise,  
 Potent, endurable as thought—  
 The brave live in their deeds again,  
 Their fame dwells on the lips of men  
 Forever, and their names sublime  
 Are lofty inspirations to all coming time.

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From the Keokuk (Iowa) Gate City, Jan. 1, 1867.

Yesterday the last sad rites were paid to the honored dead. The day opened brightly enough, but grew clouded early, and a bleak, cold wind swept the streets, making the day one of the most disagreeable of the season. The procession formed shortly after twelve o'clock on Main and Fifth streets, and moved to the residence of the deceased. The order was as nearly as practicable that heretofore announced. First, the Military band, with a music to which in life the gallant dead had been so used.

Then the various societies of Odd Fellows ; the Knights Templar ; the hearse, with the pall-bearers ; the horse of the General, led by his Orderly ; the family of the deceased ; Masonic bodies ; Military organizations ; the Fire Companies ; Mayor and Council ; members of the various professions, and citizens.

From the residence the procession moved up High to Third, down Third to Main, up Main to Seventh, up Seventh to the Chatham Square Church, where it halted and where the funeral services took place. Chatham Square Church was densely filled with people. The solemn and impressive Burial Service of the Episcopal Church was performed by Rev. H. W. Woods, of St. John's Church. Then he delivered a brief address, making fit utterance of the teachings of the hour and the event.

This concluded, the remaining rites devolved upon the Knights Templar. Of this Order there was the full Encampment here, and several from abroad. Their funeral service was an impressive close to the impressive services preceding. The rites of the Church were joined with those of one of the Establishments of Humanity ; each centuries old, and each after its solemn manner, expressing the suggestive lessons of mortality gathered from those centuries, and expressing the soul's hope as well ; herein Faith and Charity agree ; whether it be Church or the Order of Humanity, they stand at the grave with like convictions and like hopes.

From the Church, after the conclusion of the services there, the procession moved to Fifth, thence to Main, and out Main to the Cemetery. There was an immense procession, that would have been much larger but for the intolerably cold weather. Noticeable in the ranks, were the Blue coats of those veterans of the war for the Union, who thus honored one whose patriotism was a controlling element of his life, and under whose gallant

and consummate generalship, many of them had marched to hard-won and glorious victories over the enemies of the Government. Minute guns were fired during the afternoon. At the grave, as announced, where a large crowd assembled, the closing ceremonies were conducted by the Knights Templar. Near by where, since the war began, in which he did so early and continued and valuable service, he had laid a gifted and lovely daughter, and a brave son, whose meritorious service had awakened the admiration of our people, as his untimely and lamented death had excited their profoundest sorrow and sympathy—near by these was he laid, third bitterest loss of a so grievously suffering mother and widow.

Then the crowd came away, and to the stillness of the Cemetery was left the mortal remains of the State's ablest General, and one of the country's noblest sons.

The business houses were all closed, and business was suspended during the afternoon. Main street and many private residences were hung with flags appropriately draped. The hearse was decked with the American flag, draped with mourning; it was drawn by four splendid black horses. The city omitted nothing to show her great estimation of the distinguished dead, her profound regret and sorrow at his death, and her sympathy with the afflicted family and relatives.

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From the Cleveland (Ohio) Herald.

We made mention of the sudden death of Major General CURTIS at Council Bluffs. The remains were taken to Keokuk for interment, receiving at Chicago, and other places along the route, the respect due the distinguished dead.

Keokuk went into universal mourning over the death of one of the most respected of its citizens. The members of the Bar noticed the event with becoming respect, and in a short eulogy a prominent lawyer of that Bar said of General CURTIS: "As a member of this bar he adorned it with his genial disposition and conduct and dignified it with his learning and ability. As a civil engineer (for his learning was very extensive) let that performance of his, by which he turned the channel of the Mississippi, and saved the harbor of St. Louis, attest to his greatness in that department of science. As a patriot, let his military services in Mexico, and in the rebellion, declare his best eulogium." The funeral of General CURTIS was a day of great solemnity and sadness in Keokuk. Flags were hung at half mast; business suspended, and every outward possible token of heartfelt regard was shown. He was buried with Masonic honors, and the ceremonies of the Episcopal Church, and the procession marched to the grave amid the tolling of the bells of the city, and the firing of minute guns.

*From the St. Louis, (Mo.,) Republican.*

The funeral of the late Maj. Gen. SAMUEL R. CURTIS took place at Keokuk, Dec 31st. Business throughout the city was suspended, public and private houses were draped in mourning, flags were at half-mast, and minute guns were fired as the immense funeral cortege moved to the cemetery. The procession was composed of all the civil and military organizations of the place, and was the largest funeral ever seen there. The very impressive funeral service of the Knights Templar was performed at the grave.

From the Keokuk (Iowa) Constitution, Jan. 2d, 1867.

The funeral obsequies of Major General SAMUEL R. CURTIS took place on Monday afternoon, and was an imposing and solemn occasion. Early in the forenoon flags were draped in mourning and suspended at half-mast from most of the business houses on Main street; bells were tolled, and other exhibitions of respect manifested for the illustrious dead. The countenances of our citizens, as they passed along the streets, wore a melancholy sadness that showed plainly they realized the fact that not only had a great man fallen, but that our city had lost one of its most exemplary citizens. As a soldier, statesman and patriot, Keokuk had reason to be proud of General CURTIS, and in his death, certainly had cause to mourn.

At 1 o'clock P. M., the procession formed according to the programme laid down in Sunday morning's *Constitution*, and passed down Main street to Fourth; up Fourth to Concert; down Concert to Second, and thence to the residence. Here the procession halted till the corpse was placed in the hearse, which was draped in mourning, with the American colors tastefully festooned on either side with black bows, and was drawn by four black steeds, whose harness was trimmed out in mourning, and then resumed its march out High street to Third; down Third to Main; out Main to Seventh, and up Seventh to Chatham Square M. E. Church, where it rested. The services at the Church were of a most impressive character, being conducted by the Rev. HENRY WOODS, respectively as Minister of the Episcopal Church, and as Chaplain of the Knights Templar, assisted by Sir Knight R. F. Bower, and the other members of the order. The Minister officiating took for his text the 9th verse, 39th Psalm — "I was dumb, and opened not my mouth, because thou didst it."

The address was one in every respect befitting the mournful occasion: brief, but pointed and eloquent. A solemn stillness prevailed while the words were uttered that expressed the sentiments with which all hearts were imbued. Each one of the crowded audience seemed to feel that the coffin that stood before them containing the lifeless remains of him who might truly be called one of the noblest of our citizens, was all that was needed to carry home the lessons of such an hour!

The ceremonies at the Church being concluded, the procession again took up its line of march, passing down Morgan to Fifth street; down Fifth to Main, and thence by the usual route to the cemetery.

During the march of the procession to the burying ground the bells of the city were tolled, and thirteen guns fired at intervals of three minutes.

On reaching the cemetery the remains were carried to the grave with befitting ceremony, and the last honors were offered that could be paid to General CURTIS. Sorrowful was the scene! Fair nature, as though in sympathy with the sadness of the hour, seemed to enshroud herself in the garb of mourning! Drearly the cold wind blew across the ground locked by the frost of winter, harmonizing with, as it bore away on its bosom, the sigh, the smothered regrets, of those who knew the deceased but to admire and to love! "Dust to dust; ashes to ashes"—a few shovels of earth, and all was over! Thus has departed from among us a man whose like we may never see again. As was well said by the officiating Minister in his address, "he needs no eulogy." His life speaks for him as a man: his public services and his professional labors are a lasting and splendid monument to his patriotism and his genius.



From the Mt. Vernon (Ohio) Democratic Banner, Jan. 5, 1867.

We last week made brief mention of the death of Maj. Gen. CURTIS, which occurred at Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the 26th ult., from a stroke of apoplexy. The General, in company with Gen. Simpson and Dr. White, had just returned from a journey to a point 305 miles west of Omaha, on the Union Pacific Railroad, which work he was examining, as one of the Government Commissioners. The party were proceeding in a carriage from Omaha to St. Johns, Iowa, to take the cars for Chicago; but in crossing the Missouri river, the ice being weak, the three gentlemen concluded to walk over, which was accordingly done. Upon reaching this side of the river, resuming his seat in the carriage, General CURTIS became pale and weak, and his eyes closed; while a guttural sound issued from his throat, indicating that he was in a paroxysm. The doctor laid him down on one of the seats, and the driver drove rapidly to the residence of Colonel Nutt, a particular friend of the deceased, who lived near Council Bluffs. On the arrival at Colonel Nutt's, General CURTIS, apparently dead, was taken from the carriage and placed upon a bed, when Drs. Brown and Bundy were sent for, who, after arriving and examining the body, pronounced that life was extinct.       \*       \*       \*       \*       \*       \*       \*

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From the Mt. Vernon (Ohio) Republican, Jan. 15, 1867.

The sudden and sad news of the death of General CURTIS, at Council Bluffs, on the 26th of December, has recalled to our mind several incidents connected with our acquaintance with him, which may be of interest to his numerous friends in this section.

When we came to Ohio in 1838, and settled at McConnellsville, Morgan county, we found General CURTIS a resident of

that town. He had been the Engineer in charge of the improvement for slack water navigation on the Muskingum, and had under him as assistants several young gentlemen who have since become somewhat distinguished. Among them was John Sherman, now our Senator in Congress, James Love, now the U. S. District Judge of Iowa, and J. R. Straughn, since a prominent railroad man. Colonel CURTIS was a decided Whig, and about that time the Democrats came into power and he was removed. He remained a resident of McConnellsville until 1842 or 1843, when he moved to Wooster, and entered upon the practice of the law. There he remained till the Mexican war broke out, when he entered the service and distinguished himself as the Colonel of the 3d Ohio regiment. After the close of the war he settled in Keokuk, Iowa. He was elected to Congress three times from his District, and when the great rebellion broke out was appointed a Major General, and at once entered into active service. In command of the Western Department he was successful in his efforts to drive the rebels from Missouri and Arkansas. The battle of Pea Ridge will be known as one of the hardest fought and most brilliant Union victories of the war. When the rebellion was put down he left the service, and was appointed one of the inspectors by the Government of the Pacific Railroad west of Omaha, and it was while in this service that he was stricken down and died.

General CURTIS was an ardent politician, and in 1841 was the Whig candidate for the Senate in the District of Morgan, Washington and Perry. He stumped the District and made a strong canvass, but the majority on the wrong side was too strong to be overcome. We remember many of the incidents of that campaign. We were present at a militia review at Sharon, in the east part of Morgan county, when the news came that John Tyler had finally

gone over to the enemy and had vetoed the bank bill. The Democracy were jubilant and the Whigs were rather down in the mouth. The debates and speeches in those days were sharp, pointed, at times personal, but Colonel CURTIS was noted for the fairness and generosity with which all his discussions were conducted, and he always secured the respect and good will of his opponents.

We have still a very distinct recollection of the great encampment at Zanesville, in the summer of 1840. At that time we held the *very responsible* position of Sergeant in the Morgan Guards, a very excellent company of volunteers at McConnellsville. It was our first campaign. The march from McConnellsville to Zanesville, twenty-five miles, the camping out, the reception by Capt. Hazlett's Warren Greens and the Putnam Greys, the two days encampment at Camp Goddard, the deeds upon the tented field; all these may form the material for an article at some future day. Colonel CURTIS was the commander of the regiment, composed of the companies there assembled, and most splendidly did he perform its duties. It was the remark of all that he was a thorough master of the art, and for years the grand encampment at Camp Goddard in 1840 was regarded as the perfection of that sort of duty.

Our personal relations with General CURTIS have ever been cordial and pleasant. He had true notions of honor, and was always the courteous gentleman. Such men are the stamina of the nation, and when such pass away from earth the people feel that they have lost one who honored them while living, and whose noble deeds will be held in grateful remembrance.

From the Keokuk (Iowa) Gate City, Feb. 27, 1867.

[Extract from remarks on the \$500,000 appropriation to build a canal around the Des Moines Rapids, Mississippi river:]

Sixteen years ago, we believe it was, that the writer hereof attended a Rapids Improvement Convention, at Davenport, in which General CURTIS stood alone for a canal around the Rapids, backed by two or three delegates from Keokuk, against the entire crowd from Montrose to St. Paul, who were howling in favor of "blowing out the rocky bottom of the Mississippi," led on by Burlington and Fort Madison, out of mere jealousy of Keokuk. We have all learned something since then, and the people of Iowa and the Northwest have lost a good deal, and the Government has thrown away hundreds of thousands of dollars, and the rocky bed of the river rests on its old foundations, and now, at last, common sense has prevailed, and the only practicable mode of improving the navigation of the Rapids has been adopted by general consent.

The name of General CURTIS will always be associated, in our mind and in the minds of this community generally, with a canal around the Rapids; and as the originator, and able and ardent advocate of it, we trust it may be completed, and remain an imperishable monument to his memory.

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Extract from a Letter of Capt. Wm. T. Burgess, 30th Iowa Infantry, to Gen. D. B. Hillis.

He was kind and generous, and his name will ever occupy a place among the great and good of our land. When in St. Louis, in company with Col. Charles H. Abbott, I called on the General at his rooms in the Planters' House. He received us courteously and kindly, made much inquiry relative to the needs of our regiment and wants of the men. We were ordered to the Department of

Tennessee, to report at Helena : he went with us to the boats and personally examined them. Finding the one to which we were assigned a rickety old hulk, and unsafe for a trip, he ordered it forthwith repaired, and severely reproved the officer in charge of transportation for such carelessness and indifference to the safety of the men. During our call, the conversation turning upon the situation, he remarked, with much earnestness and solemnity, "The ordeal through which we are passing is a NECESSITY in the Providence of God ; therefore acceptable, and every one should act as though a great responsibility rested upon him, and be not merely a soldier, but a man, TRULY a man. We are contending for the maintainance of principles that are no more confined to the good of this country alone, than is the light of the sun." These were his words as near as I remember them. He was no partisan, and in his death Iowa has lost one of her noblest sons, the nation one of her worthiest patriots. Long will he be cherished in the hearts of a generous people for his gallant efforts in the cause of liberty, and his indefatigable labors for the improvement of our young State.

## OBITUARY.

[This obituary is the most correct of any published as a biographical sketch of General CURTIS. It contains but one of the errors common to other and similar sketches. A reference to the older members of the family of General CURTIS, and to the original family record as kept by his father, the late Elder Zarah Curtis, of Licking county, Ohio, shows that the General was born at the family homestead, "near the village of Champlain, New York, on the 3d of February, A. D. 1805."]

*Annals of Iowa, January, 1867. Published by the State Historical Society at Iowa City.*

Died, Dec. 26th, 1866, at Council Bluffs, Iowa, while engaged in official duty, SAMUEL RYAN CURTIS, United States Pacific Railroad Commissioner, and first General of Volunteers from Iowa. He was born in Ohio, February 3d, 1807, and graduated at West Point July 1st, 1831. After a brief service in Arkansas as Brevet 2d Lieutenant in the 7th U. S. Infantry, he resigned to engage as a Civil Engineer, both on the National road and as Chief of the Muskingum River Improvement, in his native State, where he also commanded various military bodies, and engaged in the practice of the law. At the opening of the Mexican war he was made Adjutant General of Ohio, and soon afterwards Colonel of the 3d Ohio Volunteers. In Mexico, he served with distinction, with his regiment, as Military Governor of conquered cities, and on the staff of General Wool. In 1847 he removed to Keokuk, Iowa—always afterwards his home. In Iowa he was long Chief Engineer of the Des Moines Improvement, and here also he practiced law. From 1850 to 1853 he was Chief Engineer of St. Louis city, where he left a lasting monument of his abilities by connecting Bloody Island with the Illinois shore, thus saving St. Louis from becoming an inland town. Subsequently, he acted as Engineer for various railroads

through Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, and for these companies, in 1853, he indicated the line of a Central Pacific Railroad, as subsequently adopted. As an original Republican, he was thrice elected to Congress from the First Congressional District of Iowa, serving in the 35th, 36th and 37th Congress. Here he was prominent in the Lower House, a member of the Committee on Military Affairs, and Chairman of the Committee on the Pacific Railroad. He introduced a bill to construct this road on a plan substantially similar to the routes since adopted. He represented Iowa in the great "Peace Conference," which failed to prevent the greatest of civil wars.

On the fall of Sumter he left his home, and was one of the first to arrive in Washington, piloting the New York 7th Regiment to the city as volunteer aid to its commander. Returning, he was unanimously elected Colonel of the 2d Iowa infantry, and leading his regiment, the first from Iowa to follow the flag beyond the State boundary, he seized the line of the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad, thus virtually capturing half the great State of Missouri, then in incipient rebellion. Having accomplished this movement, he hastened to attend the extra session of Congress, called July 4th, 1861, and while in attendance, was present, unofficially, at Bull Run, where he, with others, in vain endeavored to turn defeat into victory. Resigning his seat in Congress, he was made a Brigadier General from May 17th, 1861, and repaired to St. Louis, where, under Fremont, he organized the "Camp of Instruction," first at Jefferson and afterwards at Benton Barracks. During the disturbance incidental to the removal of Fremont, he was entrusted by President Lincoln with some of the most painful and delicate duties. Under Halleck he first held the important command of the St. Louis District. On December 26th, 1861, five years previous to the day of his

death, he assumed, at Rolla, Mo., the command of those troops whose glorious victory at Pea Ridge, as the "Army of the Southwest," first made his name immortal in military history. Briefly, he led this army of from ten to twenty thousand men, through a half-settled, hostile territory, a difficult eight months' march of five hundred miles, winning the glorious victory of Pea Ridge, and many lesser triumphs, and arriving safely on the banks of the Mississippi at Helena, Arkansas, July 14th, 1862, having been promoted Major General in March, 1862. Not resting from his labors, during a brief leave of absence he acted as President of that Pacific Railroad Convention, at Chicago, which actually inaugurated the road now being constructed. He was hastily ordered from Chicago to assume command of the Department of the Missouri, September 24th, 1862. This command he held for eight months, during the most gloomy period of the war. His position was one of vast responsibility and importance, in which every duty, was discharged to the satisfaction of the patriotic North. His command extended over Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, and the Indian Territory, and the armies of the "Southwest," the "Frontier," and of "Southeast Missouri." It included, probably, over 100,000 soldiers, warring with rebels, guerrillas, and Indians. Under him, then, were won the victories of "Cane Hill," "Old Fort Wayne," "Prairie Grove," "Springfield," "Hartsville," "Cape Girardeau," "Ft. Smith," "Van Buren," and skirmishes innumerable. At the end of his eight months administration, he was removed by President Lincoln at the instance of a clique of pro-slavery and rebel sympathising Missouri politicians, "not for any fault," but in the vain hope that to remove a true soldier would convert the half-fledged rebels of Missouri to loyalty. This was *the* mistake of Mr.



Lincoln's political career. The Union party condemned the act, and it prevented Mr. Lincoln's re-nomination from being unanimous on the first ballot. On January 1st, 1864, Gen. CURTIS was assigned to the Department of Kansas, including all of his old territorial command, except Missouri and Arkansas. His troops were few and scattered, fighting guerrillas on the Missouri border, and Indians over the wide domain of the West.

In the fall of the year he rallied his volunteer troops, about 3,000 strong, and the Kansas Militia, as the "Army of the Border," and in a campaign of fourteen days, assisted by a few troops from General Pleasanton, drove the army of his old adversary, Price, 20,000 or 30,000 strong, three hundred and fifty miles from Kansas City to the Arkansas river, fighting the battles of "Little Blue," "Big Blue," "Westport," "Mar<sup>a</sup>ias des Cygnes," "Osage," "Charlot," and "Newtonia." This was the last return of Price to Missouri. He suffered a terrible and complete rout, with an admitted loss of over 10,000.

On February 16th, 1865, General CURTIS assumed command of the Department of the Northwest, including Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Dacotah, and all north of Nebraska. This Department was dissolved July 26th, 1865. In the fall of 1865, the General went far up the Missouri as Commissioner to treat with the Indians, and in this capacity effected several important treaties. He was also appointed United States Commissioner to inspect the Union Pacific Railroad. He had just completed an inspection of the last thirty-five miles, terminating 305 miles west of the Missouri river, signed the report at Omaha, walked over the Missouri river on the ice, stepped into a carriage in apparent perfect health, and died within half a mile of the river bank. From the residence of his friend, Colonel Nutt, at Council Bluffs, his remains were brought to their last resting

place in Keokuk, escorted by Gen. J. H. Simpson and Dr. Wm. White, his fellow Pacific Railroad Commissioners, Major L. S. Bent of the Pacific Railroad, Colonels W. F. Sapp and H. C. Nutt of Council Bluffs, and Colonel R. H. Hunt, of his former staff.

Such are the briefly recited facts of a single life, which developed, would fill volumes of the history of our country.

His administrative abilities were great, and as an Engineer he was the father of the Pacific Railroad. It had been for years an idea. He gave the idea shape and actual existence. Its accomplishment was the great object of his public life, and his last act was in its behalf. To-day the locomotive whistles half way from the Missouri to the Rocky Mountains, calling in vain for the Pathfinder of civilization, who marked its track over the wide and desolate plains.

The General who never suffered defeat is laid low. The generous, gallant soldier, the kind, genial friend of all who knew him, sleeps peacefully his last sleep. The soul of a true Christian gentleman has gone from us, let us hope, to dwell, with his martyred soldier son and others dear to him, in unending Heaven.

“ Thus star by star declines,  
 Till all are passed away,  
 As morning high and higher shines,  
 To pure and perfect day !  
 Nor sink those stars in empty night—  
 They hide themselves in heaven's own light.”

S. P. C.

**Opinion of Dr. John F. Sanford.**

[Extract from a letter addressed to Mrs. General Curtis, at her request, by Dr. John F. Sanford, the General's family physician, and whom the General had consulted in regard to certain pains which he supposed to indicate dyspepsia. Dr. Sanford, after detailing the symptoms of Gen. CURTIS' case in life, and also in his sudden death, says :]

I entertain the opinion, based upon repeated observation during life, as well as from the particular manner and circumstances of his death, that he died in consequence of an Aneurismal tumor of the aorta, or large artery, in the neighborhood of the stomach. This tumor, or enlargement of the great blood vessel, was probably connected with abscess in the immediate vicinity—perhaps in the walls of the stomach—and the cause of the rupture was most likely antecedent inflammation in the sac, induced by prolonged exposure, weakening its walls and rendering it susceptible to rupture by the physical exercise and excitement he had undergone immediately before his death. All the features of the case, both in life and death, are reconcilable with this view, and, in fact, it is difficult to account for a death so sudden and so unforeseen on any other hypothesis.

Sincerely hoping, my dear madam, that these views may dissipate, to some extent, the uncertainty connected with your sad bereavement, and afford you even a small measure of melancholy satisfaction, I am most respectfully, and truly, your friend and obedient servant,

JOHN F. SANFORD.

[The following addresses were received too late for insertion in their proper places :]

Address of Judge Love, of the U. S. District Court.

Judge Love responded as follows to the remarks of Mr. Marshall :

This Court has listened with profound interest to your remarks upon the life and character of General SAMUEL R. CURTIS. Having been long and intimately associated with General CURTIS in former years, I am better able than most men to express an opinion of his character as a citizen, and of his sterling worth as a man. The result of my observation is, that I have never known any man whose character took a stronger hold of the *hearts* of his fellow-men. This is high praise, for it argues the possession of the noblest traits of character and the warmest affections in the man who could thus rule the hearts of other men. A brief reference to some circumstances personally known to myself, will illustrate the truth of what I have just said.

I first knew General CURTIS in the civil engineer service of the State of Ohio. I served under him, with a number of other young men in that service. We were all young and ardent, and, I can truly say, cherished the warmest and most devoted attachment to our chief, as an incident which I am about to relate will show. After two or three years' service, General CURTIS was removed, on party grounds. It was a period of violent political excitement, and the practice (a bad practice) had grown up of removing all civil officers opposed in sentiment to the dominant party. No cause whatever was alleged for the removal of General CURTIS, and, in truth, he was, as a public officer, universally acceptable. The young men under General CURTIS, including myself, were all, with one or two exceptions, attached to the dominant party, and opposed, in party relations, to the

General. Nevertheless, we held a meeting and unanimously passed resolutions condemning, in the strongest terms, the removal of our chief, and denouncing the action of the powers above us. A committee, of which I was myself a member, was raised to present these resolutions to General CURTIS, with a letter expressive of our feelings at parting. The committee was instructed to furnish a copy of the resolutions and letter for publication. This coming to the knowledge of our Commissioner of Public Works, he wrote us a letter expressing his disapprobation of our conduct in very strong terms, and declaring that, whilst it was his wish to keep us in office, he should nevertheless discharge us all unless we so far repented as not to publish the resolutions and letter in question. This had the effect to intimidate only one of our number, who withdrew his name. All the rest with one voice declared our purpose to publish, which was accordingly done, with the answer of General CURTIS. I mention this incident because I know it was a matter of pride with General CURTIS, as he often told me, and because it serves to illustrate the warm attachment to the General of all who were associated with him.

We were all accordingly discharged from the service, and General CURTIS engaged in the practice of the law. I was next personally associated with General CURTIS in the Mexican war. When we arrived at Camp Washington, near Cincinnati, we found him in command, under the Governor of Ohio, of all the regiments assembling for the war. The General, with his usual zeal, organized and drilled the troops as they came in. The company officers, under the law of Ohio, had the election of the field officers. There was a great majority of the officers politically opposed to General CURTIS, and a powerful effort was made to turn the election on party grounds. We, however, of the

Third Ohio, elected General C. Colonel, in spite of the most determined appeals to party feelings and relations. The history of General CURTIS during the Mexican war is matter of record, and neither time nor space will allow a detailed statement of what I personally know upon the subject. Suffice it to say, that he served with honor and efficiency, and that General Taylor distinguished him at the close of the term of service of his regiment with a high and responsible office at his headquarters. And I can bear personal testimony that General CURTIS was the idol of the men of his regiment, with whom he had so long borne the privations and difficulties of the field and camp. This simple fact speaks volumes—above all labored eulogy—of his character and conduct. Wherever there is a man of that regiment, scattered over the broad surface of the country, the fame of General CURTIS has a defender and advocate.

Soon after the Mexican war, General C. removed to this State, where his subsequent career is so well known that it were idle to dwell upon the subject. His name has become historical. He has left a reputation among his fellow-men, which will live for ever without spot or blemish. All know how universally he possessed the respect and affection of the people. His death filled all hearts with sorrow. He died as far as I know, without a solitary individual in the State of Iowa who can be called his enemy. When we consider how prone men are to be censorious, if not envious, of those in high stations, we find in the universal esteem of his fellow-men the highest evidence of his exalted worth.

Let the resolutions of the Bar be spread upon the records of this Court, as a testimonial of our respect and esteem for the memory of our departed brother.

Remarks of Col. J. W. Rankin, in the Supreme Court of Iowa, at Davenport.

I do not wish to detain the Court at this late hour, and, besides, I feel unqualified to accomplish additions to the name and fame of the chief soldier of Iowa, and in time of peace one of its most useful citizens.

I come, by request of the Bar of my county, to present for record the memory of an old friend, a tried and true friend, and, besides, one of the true men of the State and nation. It was my good fortune to know General CURTIS and his excellent family in Ohio, and to be for some time the tutor of his sons. No man ever knew them who did not greatly esteem them.

In 1848 I came to Iowa as the partner of General CURTIS in the legal profession, and from that time forward our relations were truly pleasant. Possessing a most excellent wife, and surrounded by children of unusual promise, his house has been greatly attractive.

When the rebellion commenced he entered the service, and his example and influence carried into the conflict his two sons. Soon a beloved daughter departed to a better world, and shortly afterwards the gallant, worthy and religious Henry was murdered in Missouri, while in the line of his duty. General CURTIS lived to know that the rebellion was prostrated, but his truly noble wife lives to know that husband, son and daughter have gone to join the general assembly in a far off, better world.

I will not recount the incidents of the General's life, or speak of his great virtues in public or private. Suffice it to say, that a great and good man died, and that a noble example was left to others. And when we, as members of the Bar, think of him, it is my most earnest wish that I, yes all of us, may be improved by his whole life, and be thereby better prepared to mingle hereafter with his songs of praise among the stars, or wherever God dwells, with His angellic hosts and His redeemed millions.

## Reply of Chief Justice Lowe, of the Supreme Court.

GENTLEMEN OF THE BAR : I am instructed by my associates of the Bench to grant your application to have spread upon the records of this Court the resolutions *in memoriam* of the lamented death of our distinguished brother, General SAMUEL R. CURTIS. It would be strange indeed that this tribute of respect, usually extended to the memory of our worthy professional brethren, under like circumstances, should be withheld from one, hitherto so prominent, not only in the domain of jurisprudence, but who had won for himself honors so bright and honorable in the halls of Federal legislation,—in the field of arms,—and in those great public enterprises which looked to the physical and social adornment of his country, the development of its resources, and which are, in their grander outlines and proportions, the recognized indicia of a high order of civilization.

To the members of this Court General CURTIS was no stranger ; long years have we known him well, in public as well as private life ; in the halls of Congress ; in the contests of political campaigns ; in the bloody scenes of the battle-field, ever gallant and brave ; on great lines of internal improvement, as a civil engineer and general superintendent, and in the vanguard of all great enterprises ;—so that it can truthfully be said of him, that he was an eminently useful man in his day and generation.

He was kind, generous and patriotic ; free from all bitterness ; the friend of the masses ; the foe of oppression ; in sympathy with the cause of liberty everywhere ; uttering no uncertain sounds when that cause was assailed ; setting loosely to his own personal interest or safety, when the exigencies of his country demanded his services.

In his social relations he was cordial and pleasant ; in his



domestic life most happy, for he was blessed, in the munificence of a kind Providence, with a help-mate whom to know was to love, and whose heart was ever open as noonday to all the charities of life, and especially to those offices of kindness and comfort which ministered to the happiness of her husband, whose bereavement she now mourns, with a grief so profound that it tells but too evidently how keenly she feels the same, and which, I pray, may be sanctified to us all.



## CARD.

From the Keokuk Papers, January 5th, 1867.

The family and relatives of the late Maj. Gen. CURTIS desire, through the medium of the press, to extend their thanks to the friends of the deceased for their kind attention and sympathy in our recent bereavement.

And especially to his colleagues and fellow Commissioners of the Pacific Railroad, Gen. Simpson and Dr. White, who were with him from the time of his death until his remains were safely deposited with his family; also to the officers of the Union Pacific, the Chicago & Northwestern, the Chicago, Burlington Quincy, and the Toledo, Wabash & Western Railroads, for furnishing a special car for the occasion, and to Mr. Pullman for furnishing a sleeping car for the escort. Many thanks are also due to Major Bent, of Omaha, who accompanied the remains, on behalf of the Union Pacific Railroad, to Colonel Nutt, at whose house, in Council Bluffs, the General died; to Colonel Sapp, also of Council Bluffs, and to Colonel Hunt, late of the General's staff—all of whom acted as an escort to the remains.

We also thank the soldiers, Masonic Fraternity, Firemen, Societies, and citizens generally, for their attendance and condolence.

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